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Title:

Press release: Federal budget

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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN.FEDERAL BUDGET.

17.9.74

The Premier, Mr. Dunstan, tonight welcomed the Federal Budget as providing help for lower income earners but warned that its failure to help State Government finances would mean further increases in South Australian taxation.

"I am afraid that while Mr. Crean has given on the one hand he has forced the States to take on the other".

Welcome features of the Federal Treasury Budget were :

- The income tax relief to lower income earners coupled with additional tax - on unearned income and capital gains - on those who could most afford to pay.
- Increased spending on education and other services which would help the average Australian.
- The small surplus proposed which would have a stimulatory effect on the economy generally.
- Specific help to South Australia in such projects as the Land Commission, to hold down home land block prices, water filtration and Monarto.

But Mr. Dunstan said he was extremely disappointed that submissions by South Aust and Tasmania for help through tied grants from the Commonwealth for specific purposes had not been met.

As a result, South Aust would be forced into raising at least an additional \$6m in the current financial year in taxation, which could only be done in the form of regressive measures.

"I had hoped - and said so when presenting the State budget - to avoid a consumer tax of some kind. I can no longer plan to do so".

The Premier said he was also disappointed that Mr. Crean had continued abolition of the brandy differential.

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